

been attractive for human groups since the Paleolithic period. During the spread of Neolithization, the West coast of the Black Sea was crucial for the dispersal of agriculture and husbandry to Europe and Asia. The prehistoric communities that moved along the rivers and valleys of the area, over the mountains and highlands, to find sources, new farming settings, and new places to settle contributed to extending the main route of the Neolithic lifestyle. The session will examine the interplay of environmental, anthropogenic, climatic, and cultural factors shaping prehistoric resilience and mobility around the Black Sea. Subjects for discussion cover wide questions, from the isotopic and paleogenetic data to paleoenvironmental, paleoclimatically and geo-hydrological investigations, from cross-cultural movements and interconnection across the region to local seasonal migrations, mobility connected with the search for resources and climatic changes, and other reasons for humankind being on the move and the spread of innovations in the region in the Early Holocene. We welcome contributions from archaeologists, bioarchaeologists, geoarchaeologists, geneticists and others interested in the Black Sea region through the early-mid Holocene.

CONTRIBUTION ABSTRACTS

1348. ANTHROPOLOGICAL CONTINUITY AND MIGRATIONS IN THE MESOLITHIC-NEOLITHIC OF THE NORTHERN BLACK SEA REGION

Contribution format: Oral

Contribution authors: Inna Potekhina (Institute of Archaeology of the NAS of Ukraine)

Our understanding of the origin and anthropological composition of the Mesolithic and Neolithic populations of the Northern Black Sea (North Pontic) Region has been significantly improved by large-scale studies of ancient DNA, the results of which have been considered in a wide range of synchronous groups of Western Eurasia. The genetic continuity of the prehistoric population of the Middle and Lower Dnieper Basin for 4000 years, from the Mesolithic to the end of the Neolithic, in contrast to almost all other parts of Europe, has been revealed. Migration hypotheses regarding the Neolithic tribes of the Dnieper-Donets cultural and historical region have been considered, some of which have traditionally been associated with the arrival of small groups of late Mesolithic hunter-gatherers from Northwestern territories in the Middle and Lower Dnieper regions, which has been confirmed by archaeological and anthropological evidence. New archaeogenetic data have also revealed a possible migration here at the beginning of the Neolithic era from the southwest. In two Neolithic burial grounds in the North Pontic Region, rare for the European Neolithic Mt haplogroups were discovered, which indicate very ancient contacts with groups of Eastern Eurasia. The consistency of the results of anthropological and genetic studies confirms their reliability and allows us to complement and expand the possibilities of studying the prehistoric population of Ukraine using these research methods.

2333. THE SPREAD OF AGRICULTURE TO THE NORTHERN BLACK SEA: SUMMARIZING THE STATE OF RESEARCH

Contribution format: Oral

Contribution authors: Marta Andriiovych (University of Oxford)

In the middle of the 20th century, the Neolithic period in eastern Europe was defined above all by the spread of ceramics, including in the northern Black Sea region. In the broad context of world archaeology, however, the most widespread criterion for defining the Neolithic is farming. Recent archaeobotanical research has begun to address a gap in knowledge about the earliest farming in the northern Black Sea region. In this talk, I will trace the appearance of Neolithic crops (wheat, barley, peas, etc.) in the northern Black Sea region, both through directly dated archaeobotanical remains and impressions on ceramics. The intention is to synthesise available archaeobotanical and radiocarbon data from recent research in the region and to visualise it using geospatial analyses and distribution maps. I use this approach to shed light on longstanding questions in the northern Black Sea region, surrounding the meaning of the terms 'Mesolithic', 'Neolithic', 'Chalcolithic' and the transitions between them.

165. THE COMPLEX OF LAYERS 5/6 OF FATMA KOBA

Contribution format: Oral

Contribution authors: Manko Valery – Telizhenko Sergiy (Institute of Archaeology of NAS of Ukraine)

The complex of layers 5/6 of Fatma Koba was connected with the first half of Boreal. The complex illustrates the last stage of development of Taubodrakian industry of mountainous Crimea. This stone tool industry is comprised of the following assemblage: the use of direct percussion techniques for obtaining blades; the presence of single and double-platformed flat cores and single-platformed, narrow-surfaced cores, end scrapers, burins on truncated, faceted blades, angle burins on broken blades. This locales assemblage as included the production of lunates with bipolar retouched arcs, and trapezes and triangles with bipolar retouched sides, as well as the use of the microburin technique for the production of geometric microliths. The origin of the Taubodrakian industry